

Possible Writing Lessons From
Painting the Wind
by
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writing in the present tense

effective repetition

variation in sentence length

listing – with semicolon and commas
using a sentence fragment
with a dash
placement variation
without the use of a conjunction
with a colon

use of exact nouns and names

strong verbs

hyphenated adjectives

variations in print

effective use of dialogue

setting up the ending in
the beginning

placing adjectives after
the noun

character snapshots

Taking a closer look at adjective placement in MacLaughlin's books:

From *Painting the Wind*:

The paintings are on the walls: the faces, young and old, the bowl of tulips...."

From *Sarah, Plain and Tall*:

I looked at the long dirt road that crawled across the plains, remembering the morning that Mama had died, cruel and sunny.

From *Skylark*:

Splashes of color in the sky, red, and silver, and green.

Try it out: